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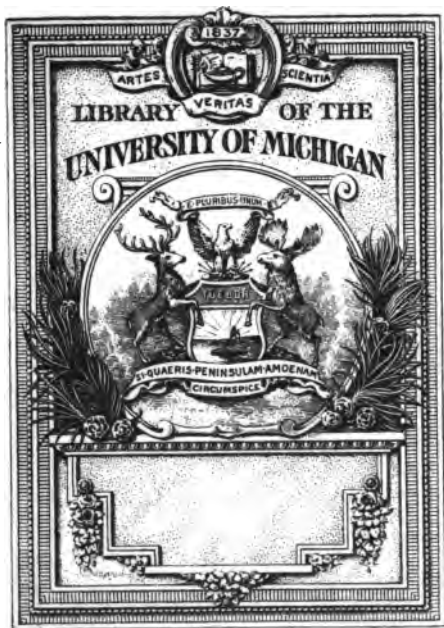
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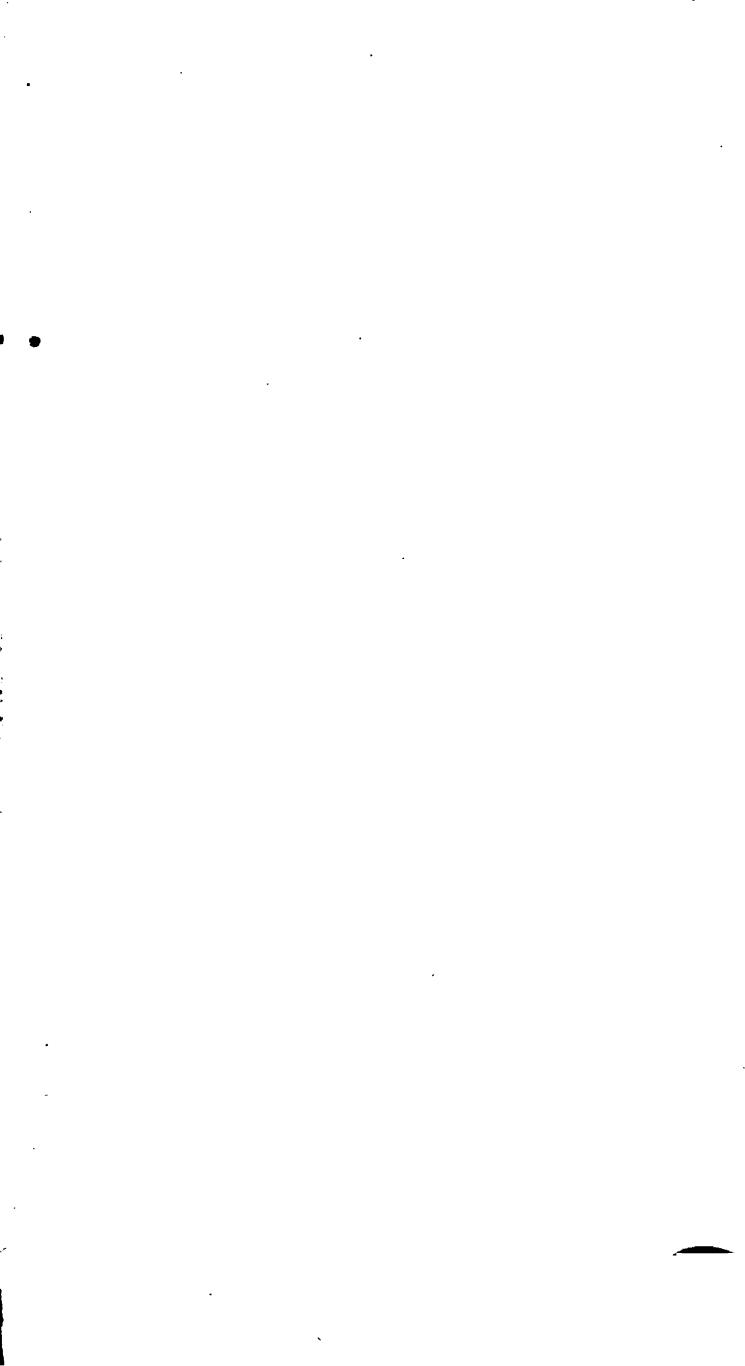


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CIRCUM PRÆCORDIA

The Collects

OF THE

Holy Catholic Church

AS THEY ARE SET FORTH

BY THE

Church of England

IN HER

Book of Common Prayer

For every Sunday in the year.

TOGETHER WITH A FEW POEMS

By MR. PARSONS.







BOSTON: PRINTED BY JOSEPH
GEORGE CUPPLES AND PUB-
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' Ἔργα νέων, βουλαὶ δὲ μέσων, εὐχαὶ δὲ γερόντων.

— *Hesiod.* *

Numinis oracula et sanctorum verba piorum,
Suavius ut mentes moveant quæ metricè lecta,
Scholarum filius quas olim Ecclesia nostra
Præbuit agnellis, nunc ultimus agnellorum,
Deficiente manû, dum cessêrat aura poesis,
Frigidus aut steterat *circum præcordia*
sanguis.

Obloquitur numeris, varians discrimina vo-
cum.

Neu sit inepta labor, fidei fructus puerorum
Nostrum de æde tuâ antiquâ, sanctissime
Paule!

Discipuli audaces! haud muti cæca magistri
Verba, nec ipsius pastoris dicta sequentes;
At pueri ingenui cœlestia facilè credunt;
Neque Dei servus jecit sua semina saxis.
Manserunt hæ corde meo, semperque mane-
bunt,

* Work for the young; for elders counsel sage;
Then what remains but orisons for age?



140932



*Conlectæ veteres quæ omnis epistola sermo,

Quas nunc versiculis reddit mihi Musa senilis.
Ludere me sacris non care, putabis, amice
Quæ tetigi trepidans et humillimè conscius
ausi :

Hoc habui in votis ; pro Christi stirpe sacellum

Condere pectoribus : ne sævi docte sacerdos !
Si nimis exiguum tibi, quæso ut blandè tace
bis :

Discedam, explebo numerum reddarque tenebris.

T. W. PARSONS.

* "*Conlegenda cum Epistolâ*" ; this marginal direction in the missals probably gave name to the Collects or Conlects. They were the "*preces conlectæ*"—read with the Epistles.





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Circum Præcordia.





**The Collect for
The Fourth Sunday before Christmas, or
Advent Sunday.**

Almighty God ! give us the grace that
may
Enable us to cast the works away
Of darkness, putting on that armour
bright
Of righteousness — the panoply of
light —
Now in the time of this brief mortal
being,
During which life Thy Son, Lord
Jesus Christ,
With great humility did visit men
On whom the boon had been be-
stowed of seeing,
And through their ignorance was
sacrificed ;

(1)





That in the last day when He shall
again —

As we believe Thy Saints have
truly said —

Come in His glorious majesty to be
The judge of all the living and the
dead,

Unto that promised life immortal we
May rise from this world which we
darkly tread :

Through Him who lives, who reigns,
whom we adore

Now, with One Spirit and Thee, and
evermore.

(2)





The Second Sunday in Advent.

O blessed Lord ! who so hast ordered
it
That all Thy Holy Scriptures have
been writ
For our instruction, grant that in such
wise
We may both hear and with attentive
eyes
Peruse, mark, learn and inwardly re-
ceive
Their spiritual food as duly to believe
Through patience, prayers, and com-
fort of Thy Word
Those blessed truths which all man-
kind have stirred
With a new hope — that hope which
Thou hast given
Through Christ our Saviour, of the life
in heaven.

(3)





The Third Sunday in Advent.

Lord Jesus Christ ! who didst before
Thee send,

At Thy first coming, to prepare
Thy way,

The herald John — Thy messenger
and friend —

Grant that all stewards of Thy
mysteries, they

Who have Thy sacred ministry in
trust,

Likewise make ready and prepare
Thy way

By turning to the wisdom of the just
Their hearts who have been prone
to disobey ;





That in Thy second coming, on the
day
When Thou shalt judge us, and Thy
people stand
Before His face, oft having known
His hand,
They may acceptance find in that high
court
Where mercy rules, nor of His grace
come short,
Whom we call Father, whom all
worlds adore
With the Holy Spirit and Thee for-
evermore.





The Fourth Sunday in Advent.

O God! we humbly pray, raise up
Thy power
To come among us in the approach-
ing hour
Of solemn festival, and with great
might
Strengthen us through the season of
delight
With hope that, seeing we have often
been
Sore let by wicked thoughts or acts
of sin,
And hindered in the running of that
race
Of godliness which Thou before our
face
Hast plainly set, Thy grace and mercy
may

(6)





Speed on of our deliverance the day;
Through that fulfilment which Thy
 Son hath made,
Lord Jesus Christ, to satisfy and aid
In our atonement, unto whom with
 Thee
And with the Holy Spirit forever be,
World without end, all praise, all
 glory paid.





Christmas Day.

Almighty God ! who didst, as on this
morn,
Give men Thy first-begot and only
Son
To take their nature on Him and be
born
Of a pure virgin, grant us everyone
Being regenerate, to become by grace
And Thine adoption, brethren of
our Lord,
Thy children also, and behold His
face ;
And from the influence of the Holy
Word
Daily renewal of our hearts receive
Through Him who reigns and lives,
as we believe,
One God, with Thee, our Father and
our Friend
And that same Holy Spirit, world
without end.

(8)





The Second Sunday after Christmas.
O God, who mad'st Thy blessed Son
to be
Obedient to man's ancient law, the
rite
Of circumcision, grant that likewise
we,
Spiritually maimed from every false
delight,
With heart and bodies mortified and
free
From worldly passion, low desires
and lust,
May in all things Thy blessed will
obey
Through Him, Thy Son, in whom
we put our trust,
Lord Jesus Christ, and in whose name
we pray.

(9)





The Day of the Epiphany.

O God! the glory of whose orient
star
Led men to seek where Christ the
Saviour lay,
Grant that we pilgrims watching from
afar
The signs in heaven and earth
which point the way
To the true cradle of our faith, His
Church,
May to the bosom of that kingdom
soar
To find therein cessation of our search
And in Thy peace abide forever-
more.

(10)



M 70 U



The First Sunday after the Epiphany.

O Lord! in mercy, we beseech, re-
ceive

The supplications of Thy Church!
bestow

Discernment on us; gladly to achieve
Fulfilment of what things we see
and know

We ought to do, and through Thy
grace, with might

Of soul and body, still pursue the
right.





The Second Sunday after the Epiphany.

O everlasting and almighty God !
Who governest all things in heaven
and earth

With mercy hear Thy people in their
prayers

And all their days, through which
the paths are trod

Of this brief being, from their hour
of birth

To the last moment, may Thy peace
be theirs !

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen !





The Third Sunday after the Epiphany.

O Thou almighty and eternal One!

On our infirmities, we humbly
plead,

Look down with pitying eye, and
when we run

In danger's way, or in all time of
need,

Thy strong right hand our helper be!
to shun

Such things as man to his destruc-
tion lead.





The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany.

O God! who knowest us by Thy decree

To have been set here in this mortal state

With a frail nature ever doomed to be

Tempted of evil thoughts amid so great

And many dangers that we cannot stand

Always upright, vouchsafe us of Thy grace

The strong protection of Thy loving hand

Through all temptation, till we reach the place

Of Heaven's own peace, obeying Thy command.

(14)





The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany.

O God ! Thy Church and Household,
we implore,

Keep in Thy true religion evermore,
That all who lean their only hope on
Thee

And on Thy mercy, may defended be
From every terror, in the dreadful
hour

Of our departure, by Thy mighty
power :

And this we ask through Jesus Christ
our Lord.





Septuagesima Sunday.

Lord ! we beseech Thee with a favor-
ing ear
The prayers of Thy repentant people
hear,
That we who justly many times have
been
Punished in mind and body for our
sin
May by Thy goodness mercifully be
From the dominion of that death set
free ;
Unto Thy glory ! at whose name we
bend —
And through our Saviour, Christ, who
reigns with Thee
And with the Holy Ghost, world
without end.





Sexagesima Sunday.

Lord God ! who seest that our human
dust

In our own doings cannot put our
trust,

O mercifully grant us of Thy power
The sure defence in every adverse
hour ;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord and
rock and tower.





Quinquagesima Sunday.

Which is a prayer for the peace of the Church.

O Lord ! who hast assured us through
Saint Paul

That our best doings are of no ac-
count

Ungraced with charity, pour into all
Our hearts from Thine own Spirit's
eternal fount

That greatest gift, the very bond of
peace

And every virtue, lacking it who
lives

Being dead in Thy sight : so may dis-
cord cease

For Jesus' sake ! whose life like
lesson gives.





For Ash-Wednesday.

Which is also to be said, with every other
Collect, during Lent.*

Father Almighty ! everlasting God !
Who hatest nothing which Thy hands
have made,

And whose forgiveness is on all
bestowed

Who have in penitence devoutly
prayed

Sincerely sorrowing, in us create
New hearts and contrite, that while
we lament

Our sins, acknowledging our
wretched state,

Of Thee, whose mercy grows as we
repent,

Perfect remission we may all obtain
And so, forgiven, in Thy peace
remain,

Through Jesus Christ our Sovran
Lord, Amen !

(19)





The First Sunday in Lent.

O Lord ! who forty days, didst, for
our sake,
And forty nights, nor bread nor wine
partake,
Give us Thy grace such abstinence to
use
As may all superfluity refuse ;
So that our flesh may lend the spirit
space
To grow tow'rds God, and with obe-
dient pace
Follow Thy godly motions ; and the
will
Of righteousness and holiness fulfil.





The Second Sunday in Lent.

Almighty God ! to whom our need is
known

Of power to help us, mightier than
our own ;

Have care not only of our outward
frame,

But keep us inwardly devoid of blame ;
That through Thy grace we may de-
fended be

From adverse chance, and hold the
body free

From pain or weakness, and the spirit
whole

From evil thoughts which oft assault
the soul.





The Third Sunday in Lent.

Almighty God ! we do beseech Thy
 grace
Look down from heaven on us Thy
 helpless race
Of humble servants and their hearts'
 desires
And, to defend them as their need
 requires,
Stretch forth in majesty Thy strong
 right hand
That shall bestow fresh courage to
 withstand
This hostile world's temptations, and
 the foes
In our own bosoms that our peace
 oppose.





The Fourth Sunday in Lent.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Almighty
God !

That we, who have deserved thy
chastening rod
And oft endured it for those unwise
deeds

Remembering which the best man's
conscience bleeds,

May through the present comfort of
Thy grace

For which today we seek Thy holy
place,

And through our Lord and Saviour,
Christ, find peace.





The Fifth Sunday in Lent.

God ! we beseech Thee, Father of all
might !
Look down in mercy from Thy heav-
enly height
And grant that we Thy people may
be still
Preserved and governed by Thy great
good-will
Toward us, in soul and body, ever-
more
Through Jesus Christ, in whose name
we implore.





**The Sunday Next before Easter, or
Palm Sunday.**

Almighty God ! eterne ! who didst of
Thy
Deep love and tender mercy toward
mankind
Let Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our
Saviour, die,
Clothed in our flesh, upon the cross,
to mind
Men of His great submission, grant
that we
May of His patience patient followers
be
Through life, and after be partakers
made
Of His own resurrection from the
dead
Through the same Christ, our Saviour
Lord. Amen !





Easter Sunday.

Almighty God, who hast for us,
through Thine
Only begotten Son, made Death
resign
His old dominion over us, and oped
Life's gate, that life eterne for which
men hoped ;
We humbly ask that, as by special
grace
Thy love prepares our minds to be
the place
For good desires, so by Thy constant
aid
May those desires of good effect be
made ;
Through Jesus Christ, who lives with
Thee and reigns,
And with the Holy Ghost one God
remains,
To be for aye, world without end,
obeyed.

(26)





The First Sunday after Easter.

Almighty Sire ! who gav'st thine only
Son

To die for our transgressions, and
to rise

Again, that thus our pardon might
be won ;

Grant us Thy grace to put away the
leaven

Of malice and of wickedness, and
lies,

That we may evermore serve only
Heaven

In purity of life, in truth, in love,
Through the same Christ, Thy Son,
our Lord above.





The Second Sunday after Easter.

Almighty Sire ! who gavest human-
kind,
A sacrifice for sin, Thine only Son,
And that in Him we might en-
sample find
Of godliness, give grace to everyone
With grateful heart such blessing
to receive
And daily endeavor in such way to
live
That we may never falter in the
strife
The steps to follow of His faultless
life.





The Third Sunday after Easter.

Almighty God! who showest unto
all
That walk in error Thy truth's con-
stant light
With merciful intent, before they
fall
To bring them back into Thy way
of right,
Grant unto those admitted to the
fold
Of Christ's religion evermore to shun
Things adverse to their faith and
take fast hold
Of such things as were taught us by
Thy Son
Jesus, through whom we pray Thy
will be done !





The Fourth Sunday after Easter.

O God Almighty ! who alone canst
rein
The wanton pulse and wills of sin-
ful men,
Unto Thy people grant such things
to love
As Thou commandest, and desire
above
All present joys Thy promised good
most dear,
That so among the changes which
abound,
Sundry and manifold, in Thy world
here
Our hearts may surely there, with
faith sincere,
Cling, where true joy is only to be
found ;
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord
whom we revere.





The Fifth Sunday after Easter.

O Lord ! from whom proceedeth
every good
Grant us Thy servants that most holy
mood
Of inspiration, that, our hearts being
pure,
Thy mercy still may guide them, to
ensure
Good thoughts with just performance
of the same,
And this we ask in Christ our Sav-
iour's name.





Ascension.

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Almighty
One !

That like as we believe Thine Only
Son

Into the heavens to have ascension
made,

Thither in heart and mind may we
ascend

To dwell continually with Him, our
Friend

Who lives and reigns with Thee,
alike obeyed,

And with the Holy Ghost, world
without end.





The Sunday after Ascension Day.

O God ! the king of glory and all power
Who hast exalted from that bitter hour
When He for human kind was sacri-
ficed

Thine only son our Saviour Jesus
Christ

Unto Thy kingdom in the heaven to be
Our everlasting advocate with Thee !
Leave us not comfortless we now
implore

But send Thine Holy Spirit to restore
Our fainting souls and so exalt us
there

Whither our Saviour Christ is gone
before

Through whom we lift our hearts
in humble prayer

Whom we believe our helper and
our friend

Who lives and reigns with Thee
forevermore

And with the Holy Ghost, world
without end.

(33)





Whitsunday.

O God ! who didst, as at this hal-
lowed tide
Of Pentecost, Thy servants' hearts
unite,
Illume, instruct, and in the true way
guide
By sending down Thy Holy Spirit's
light,
By that same Spirit grant us, we im-
plore,
In all things a right judgment, that
we may
Joy in His holy comfort evermore,
Through Christ our Saviour's
merits, to whom we pray,
Who lives and reigns with Thee, since
earth He trod,
In the same Spirit's unity, One God.





Trinity.

Almighty Father! everlasting God!
Who hast upon Thy servants grace
bestowed,

By the confession of a faith sincere,
The glory to acknowledge and revere
Of Thine eternal Trinity, and still,
In fulness of the Majesty divine,

The Unity to worship at one shrine;
We now beseech Thee may it be
Thy will

To keep us constant in this faith of
ours,

And evermore defend us from all
powers

Adverse to peace or to belief in Thee
Who livest and who reignest and shalt
be

World without end, One God adored
in Three.





The First Sunday after Trinity.

O God ! the strength of them, and
only theirs,
Who put their trust in Thee, accept
our prayers
And mercifully grant us of Thy grace
The constant help ; and since our
mortal race,
Through nature's weakness, oft in
duty fail
Unless Thou help us, let good
thoughts prevail,
That we may please Thee both in
will and deed
By keeping Thy commandments as
our creed.





The Second Sunday after Trinity.

O God! who never failest, we are
taught,
To help and govern those whom Thou
hast brought
Up in the steadfast love and fear of
Thee,
Protect and keep us that we still may
be
Of Thy good providence in constant
care,
And grant that in our bosoms we
may bear
A fear perpetual, yet with love sincere
Thy holy name obediently revere.





The Third Sunday after Trinity.

O Lord ! in mercy hear us, we be-
seech,
And grant that we to whom Thyself
didst teach
The heart's desire to pray — as
Jesus prayed —
May be defended by Thy mighty aid
And comforted in danger or distress
Through Him whom Thou didst glo-
rify and bless.





The Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

Father ! protector of all those who
trust
In Thee, without whose help our hu-
man dust
Hath neither strength, nor holiness,
nor peace,
O multiply Thy mercy and increase
That having Thee our ruler and our
guide,
Through things that only for a time
abide
We so may pass that finally we may
Come to the joys of Thine eternal
day :
Grant it, O Heavenly Father ! for the
sake
Of Jesus Christ through whom this
prayer we make.

(39)





The Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

God ! we beseech Thee, through the
Prince of Peace,
Lord Jesus Christ, that Thou wilt
grant release
Unto His flock from envyings and
strife,
And order so the course of this world's
life
By Thy good governance, that it may
pass
Peaceably still, while we, at prayer or
mass,
Children of one fold and one Shep-
herd, may
Thy law of Love continually obey,
Serving in godly quietness and joy
Thy holy Church in her serene em-
ploy.





The Sixth Sunday after Trinity.

O God ! who hast prepared for those
 who love
Thee and Thy law, a blessedness
 above
Man's understanding, pour into our
 hearts
Such love towards Thee as perfect
 peace imparts ;
That loving Thee beyond all joys that
 are
We may obtain Thy promises that
 far
Exceed our own conception or desire,
Through Jesus Christ ! whose words
 this hope inspire.





The Sedenth Sunday after Trinity.

O Lord of power ! Almighty God !
 who art
Author and giver of all good, impart
To us and graft within our souls the
 love
Of Thy dread name — all other
 names above !
Increase in us of true religious
 thought
The daily growth ; so, by Thy pre-
 cepts taught,
May we be nourished in all good, and
 through
Thy constant mercy paths of peace
 pursue.





The Eighth Sunday after Trinity.

O God! whose never failing provi-
dence
Ordereth all things both in earth
and heaven,
We humbly pray Thee be our sure
defence
Against all evil: put away the
leaven
Of our desire for hurtful things, and
grant
That we may only seek for and ob-
tain
Such as are needful to the body's
want
Or helpful towards the soul's eter-
nal gain.





The Ninth Sunday after Trinity.

Grant us, O Lord ! the spirit, we be-
seech,
To rule our thoughts, that every act
and speech
Be always right : and since ourselves
are weak
And oft through ignorance unwisely
speak
And oft through passion, and without
Thy grace
Can do no good thing, help our help-
less race
To shun all ways or thoughts which
lead to ill
And blameless walk according to Thy
will.





The Tenth Sunday after Trinity.

With ears of mercy hear Thy ser-
vants' prayers,
Father in heaven ! and may Thy will
be theirs,
That they may ask of Thee such
things alone
As in Thy wisdom, so beyond their
own,
Thou for their good eternal dost or-
dain !
So may Thy children their desires
obtain
And these petitions not be made in
vain :
Through Jesus Christ, our Advocate.
Amen.





The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.

O God ! whose power almighty is de-
clared
Mostly in mercy ; pitying who hast
spared
Thy people often when they went
astray,
And Thy rebuke dost many times
delay ;
Grant us, we pray, such measure of
Thy grace
That we, in running the religious
race
Of Thy commandments, may obtain
of Thee
Thy gracious promises and come to
be
Partakers made of Thine eternal store
Treasured in heaven, unsummed by
earthly ore.





The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity.

Father Almighty ! everlasting
God !

Who always art, in Thy serene
abode,

Readier to hear than we to pray, and
art

Wont to give more than we desire,
or could

Deserve of Thee, pour down in every
heart

The abundance of Thy mercy, and
forgive

Those things whereof our conscience
beareth blame

And grant us those good gifts
whereby we live

Here and hereafter ; which we may
not claim

(47)





Of our own worthiness but in the
name
And through the mediation of Thy
Son
Lord Jesus Christ : so may Thy will
be done.

(48)





The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity.
Merciful God Almighty! of whose
 gift
Alone it comes that we our souls may
 lift
Up to Thy service laudable and true,
Help us, Thy faithful people, to renew
Daily their vows, and with a love sin-
 cere
Serve Thee so constantly in life's
 career
That we fail not hereafter, but at last
Those blessed promises of Thine hold
 fast,
Which through the merits of Thy
 Son alone,
Jesus, we ask — and nothing of our
 own.





The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity.

May that increase, O everlasting God !
Be on Thy servants by Thy grace
bestowed
Of hope and faith and charity
whereby
We come to love what Thou com-
mandest so
That we may trust hereafter, when
we die,
The peace which Thou hast promised
us to know ;
Through Jesus Christ, sole fount
whence hope doth flow.





The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity.

With Thy perpetual mercy keep, O
Lord !

Thy Holy Church according to Thy
word ;

And for man's frailty without Thee
must fall,

By Thy good help deliver us from all
Pernicious things, and lead us on to
those

Whereby the work of our salvation
grows.





The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity.

Have pity, Lord ! and let Thy constant care
Defend Thy Church, to keep it clean
and fair
From every error, that ourselves may
be
Under its guidance from delusions
free ;
And since without Thy help it cannot stand
In safety, succor it with Thy strong
hand,
And by Thy grace preserve it ever-
more
Through Jesus Christ, its Head,
whom we adore.





The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.

Lord ! let Thy gracious guidance, we
implore,

Be as a lamp to always go before
Or follow after us, that we may see
Our course and so continually be
Given to good works and led to do
the right,

Through Jesus Christ — who *is* our
Lamp and Light.





The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity.

Lord ! we beseech Thee grant Thy
people grace

The world's temptations patiently to
face,

To fight against them and the low de-
sires

Which or the flesh or evil spirit in-
spires,

And with pure hearts and minds to
serve alone

Thee only God ! through Jesus Christ
Thy Son.





The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity.
O God ! without whose help we have
no power
To please Thee, grant in mercy, we
implore,
That in all things thy Holy Spirit
may
Direct and rule our hearts and teach
the way,
Through Christ our Lord, to please
Thee and obey.





The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity.

Of Thine abundant goodness, merciful

Almighty God ! beseech Thee keep us free

From all such things as injure us or dull

The soul, that both our soul and body we

May hold in sound estate and ready be

Always with cheerful spirit to pursue

Those things which Thou commandest us to do.





The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity.

Grant us, O God! whose mercy doth
not cease,

Constant in faith, forgiveness and
Thy peace ;

That we from all such errors as have
been

May shielded be, and cleansed from
every sin,

And with a conscience whole and
quiet mind

Serve Thee, through Him who hath
redeemed mankind.





The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity.

The Church, Thy household, by the
living Word,

Keep in continual godliness, O Lord!
That under Thy protection it may be
From all adversities or dangers free,
Devoutly given, each day, to serving
Thee

In all good works through men devoid
of blame

To the sole glory of Thy hallowed
name.





The Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity.

O God ! our strength and refuge,
Thou who art

The author of all godliness, do
Thou

Be ready, we beseech Thee, to impart
Thy gracious hearing to the prayers
which now

We children of Thy Church devoutly
offer ;

That those things which in faith
we humbly crave

Thy goodness may effectually
proffer ;

Through Him who unto us this
great hope gave.





The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity.

Absolve Thy people, we beseech
Thee, Lord !

From their offences ; by Thy written
word

And bounteous goodness, that we all
may be

From those dread bands delivered
and set free

Of sin — whereinto many times we
fall

Through human frailty — therefore
help us all !

Hear, Heavenly Father, for our
Saviour's sake,

Christ ; in whose blessed name these
prayers we make.





The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity.

Stir up the good wills, we beseech, O
Lord !

Of Thy believers ; that we may not
cease

Bearing good fruit in works, and have
reward

As plenteous in Thy pardon and
Thy peace :

Through Jesus Christ whom also we
name Lord.





The Day of Saint Thomas the Apostle.
Eternal God! who didst, as John
hath writ,
To make more certain our belief, per-
mit
The Apostle Thomas once to disbe-
lieve
In Thy Son's resurrection, O relieve
Us from reproof in Thy sight for
doubt
That sometimes from within us or
without
Assails to shake us: hear us we im-
plore!
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, to
whom, with Thee,
And with the Holy Ghost, forever-
more
All faith all honour and all glory
be!





The Day of Saint James the Apostle.

Merciful God ! O grant us, we do pray
As thine Apostle James without delay
Forsook his father and his friends and
all

He held most dear, obedient to the
call

Of Jesus Christ, and followed Him,
thy Son,

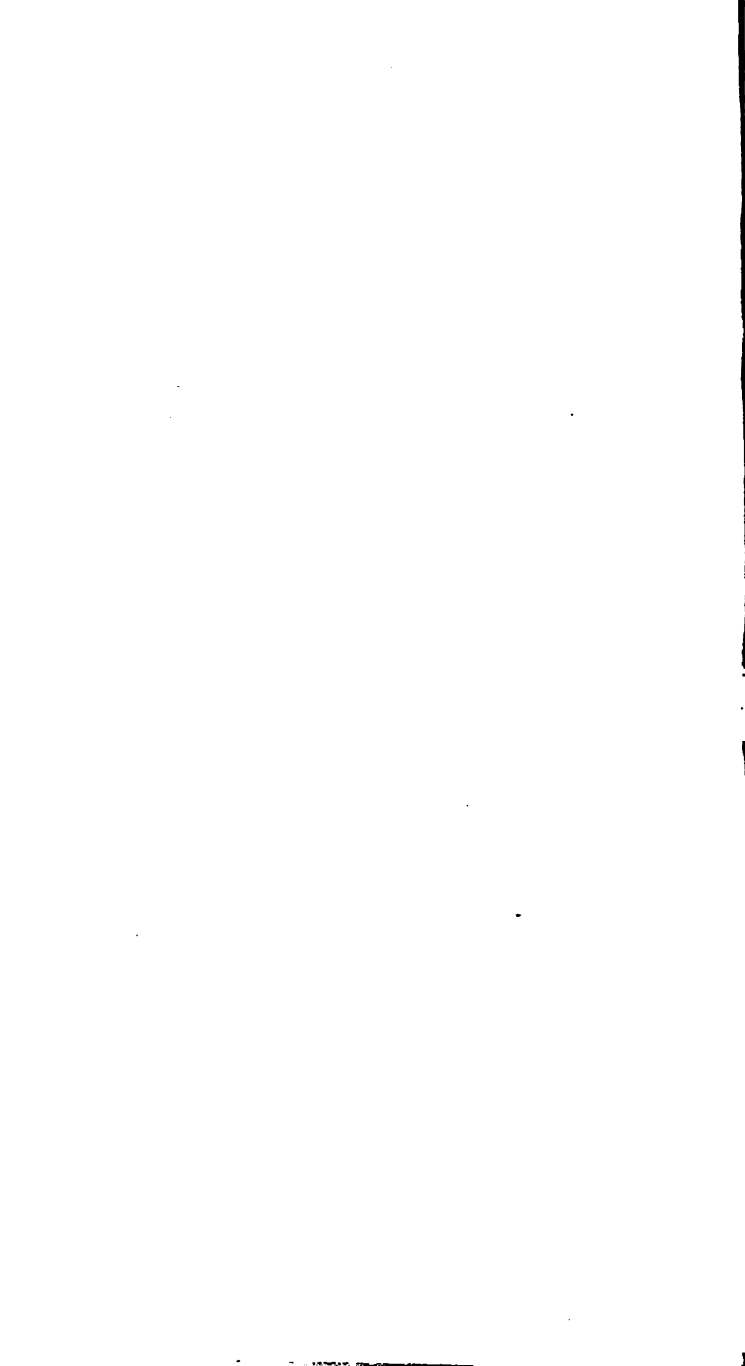
Whose divine teaching had his rever-
ence won,

That we, forsaking false and worldly
aims,

May evermore be ready, like Saint
James,

To yield obedience to Thy holy word
And follow Thy command, through
Christ our Lord.







Poems.







A Homily for Ash Wednesday.

The world is mighty and its business
great ;

Much is to do with early work and
late ;

Life without labor were a life all woe
So, still in traces on the course we
go

Harnessed and buckled to the load
we bear

Of aspirations and unending care,
And were this being all our God hath
given

Without one look beyond, one hope
in Heaven,

His earth were but an anthill at the
best

And we, poor emmets evermore in
quest

Of little bits to build or store our
caves

(67)





With gold — to buy us marble for
our graves.

Is this Ash Wednesday's lesson that
we read ?

Are we but ashes? Jesus! inter-
cede

With Him who made us — Thou!
who art the giver

Of life eternal, and our souls de-
liver

From that worse death — of souls
without a creed.





A Homily for Lent.

"Esuriendo sempre quanto e giusto."—
Dante.

When Mary mentioned at the marriage feast
That wine was wanting her desire was least
For her own lips but that the nuptial rite
Should yield the guests due custom of delight,
Since joy is fitting to the festive day
When Love in triumph bears his Queen away.

But now the sober season comes again
That brings our Saviour's fast back unto men ;
The rule of abstinence bids Christian souls





Forbear the lavish board and brim-
ming bowls,
That all should wisely use the time's
restraint
To calm our faculties but not to faint.

O God ! who listenest when Thy lions
cry
And in the desert dost their needs
supply
From forest deeps whence their pro-
viders bring
Tribute of prey to feed their famished
king,
Who giv'st the lion's lord his wine
and oil,
And bread to cheer and make him
strong for toil,
Grant unto us to use Thy golden grain
And fruits and flocks, the wealth of
hill and plain,

(70)





In such wise way as Christ's religion
finds
Good for the body, better for our
minds ;
And while we moderate our banquets
grant
That we forget not those who fast
from want.





A Lesson for Lent.

(From Dante.)

Christians! be you more steadfast,
more serene :

Fly not like feathers at each puff
that blows

Nor think that every wave will wash
you clean,

That any field may serve you for
repose :

There is one Shepherd and one fold
for you ;

Ye have a helper when your way is
rough ;

Ye have the Testament, the old and
new ;

All these for your salvation are
enough.





A Hymn for Easter.

“Behold, as Luke doth write, how Christ
once showed,
When freshly ris’n from the sepulchral cave,
Unto those two disciples on the road — ”
Dante, Purgatorio, 21.

Those two on that first Easter
morn,
Whose feet were tow’rd Emmàus
turned

Knew not their Master, newly born,
Yet how their hearts within them
burned !

As He the sacred books revealed
In high discourse along the road,
And though their mortal eyes were
sealed
Their spirits with His language
glowed.

(73)





Ye are not ignorant as they,
So, when ye children garlands bring
Before your Saviour's cross to lay,
And when your canticles ye sing,

Unless your bosoms inly burn,
Your flowers are but a garden show ;
Heav'n from a sacrifice will turn
Where roses give the only glow.

Load not with splendors of all hue
A shrine with weak belief oppressed !
More than those dear disciples
knew
To you was given, and ye are blest.

Be joyful ! but be also wise ;
And when your solemn pæans ring
Remember your salvation lies
In deeper thoughts than pansies bring.

(74)





Hear what the holy Prophet saith :
“Bring not oblations that are vain !”

Be this a festival of Faith !
Or — lilies in your bed remain.





A Prayer for Sunday Morning.

Father! I thank Thee for the
blessedness
Of last night's slumber, and im-
plore Thy grace
For strength and courage through
the coming day.
Keep us from sickness, danger or
distress,
And lead our footsteps to the
sacred place
Where Thou art listening when Thy
people pray.





Lucerna sis Pedibus Meis.

Lamp to my feet ! shine forth into
my soul,
That I may better see what way I
tread
In the dark hours and when I lose
control
Of mine own steps, by vague de-
sires misled ;
In faltering moments, when I scarce
can pray,
Through failing faith or wandering
thoughts, and sink
Back to my bondage, let thy kindly
ray,
Lamp to my feet ! prevent me on
the brink.





**A Christmas Carol for Patients in the
Massachusetts Hospital.**

O, for the glory of this golden day
Father! I thank thee and in sound
 health pray
For these in sickness. In their soul's
 distress
And body's anguish, leave not com-
 fortless
Thy suffering servants! let their eye-
 lids ope
Morn after morn, to some new ray of
 hope !

Thy temple's courts it is not theirs
 to tread —
But Thou wilt hear them, prisoned in
 their bed,

(78)





From the wet pillow whence their
white lips raise
Their feeble prayers to thee and fal-
tering praise
On our Saint's festival when belfries
round
Wake the glad air with worship's joy-
ful sound
While white-robed choirs and rolling
organs tell
Thy pæans forth, help Thou to make
them well.





With a Gift of Fresh Palm-Leaves.

This is Palm Sunday : mindful of the
day,
I bring palm branches found upon
my way :
But these will wither ; thine shall
never die,
The sacred palms thou bearest to the
sky !
Dear little saint, though but a child
in years,
Older in wisdom than my gray com-
peers !
We doubt and tremble, *we*, with
'bated breath,
Talk of this mystery of life and death :
Thou, strong in faith, art gifted to
conceive
Beyond thy years, and teach us to
believe.





Take, then, my palms, triumphal, to
thy home,
Gentle white palmer, never more to
roam !
Only, sweet sister, give me, e'er thou
go'st,
Thy benediction, for my love thou
know'st !
We, too, are pilgrims, travelling to-
wards the shrine :
Pray that our pilgrimage may end
like thine !





A Passage from the *Paradiso*.

That man who doth by simple reason
 hope
To thread of the Infinite way the un-
 fathomed scope
That holds one substance in three
 persons One
Is merely mad : let all such reason-
 ing shun.
Rest you contented, O ye human
 race
With this because : It *was* so. Had
 the grace
Been given to know the whole that
 ye believe
What need had been for Mary to con-
 ceive ?





In Saint Joseph's.

AUGUST 10.

While the priest said "*perpetua
luceat,*"
Sprinkling the palms that graced a
maiden's bier,
I felt a light stream in upon my soul;
And one that near me by the chan-
cel sate,
Who was to the departed soul most
dear,
Saw the same light as my hand softly
stole
To hers, and suddenly a glory
played
Around those palms that seemed to
check my breath:
Even as he prayed for light the
darkness fled
To both of us: I looked into her eyes

(83)





And saw through tears a raptured
look that said
A strength new-born doth in my
spirit rise
And though before me lies my
sister dead
I also feel the life that lives in death.





Sonnet.

Lift me, Lord Jesus, for the time is
nigh
When I must climb unto Thy cross
at last ;
The world fades out, its lengthening
shadows fly ;
Earth's pomp is passing and the
music's past ;
Phantoms flock round me, multiply-
ing fast ;
Nothing seems tangible ; the good
I thought
Most permanent hath perished. Come
away,
Oh ! sated spirit, from the vacant
scene ;
The curtain drops upon the spun-out
play,
The benches are deserted. Let us
go ;

(85)





Forget the foolish clown, the king,
the queen,
The idle story with its love and woe.
I seem to stand before a minster
screen,
And hear faint organs in the dis-
tance blow.





In Eclipse.

Prayer strengthens us : but oft we
faint

And find no courage even to pray ;
Oh, that in Heaven some pitying
saint

For me might Ave-Mary say !

For sometimes present pleasures
drown

The serious vein, and some dark
days

Of great, o'ermastering anguish frown
Amid the sacred tapers' blaze.

Before the morning-watch I rose —

I say before *this* morn's — to kneel,
But of my voice the fountain froze,
Yea, something seemed my soul to
seal.

And now I know what rosaries mean :
That oftentimes the heart is weak,

(87)





And cannot in a mood serene
Its dumb petition duly speak.
Yet every bead may count with Him
Who healed the palsied and the
blind,
Restored the lame and withered limb,
And lifted the disordered mind,
As mine was then, who had no might
Of utterance with mine icy lips,
For one great Shadow veiled the
light
Till hope itself was in eclipse.
Eclipses come, and also pass ;
Let us not dream like savage men,
With shouts and cries and sounding
brass
To scare that Shadow off again ;
But take the phases of our thought
As of the planets — wanderers
they

(88)





Even as ourselves, but better taught,
Through gloom or glory, to obey —
As of the moon, that many times
Conceals in clouds her crescent
sheen,
But when her fulness cometh, climbs
Above Orion's front, serene.





Sonnet.

These garlands on thine altar Jesus
Christ !
Under the shadow of thy cross I lay
And in the name of that Evangel-
ist *
"Peace to thee Mark! Evangelist of mine."
In whose most holy fane I once did
pray
And not without response — these
gifts I say :
Love lost — hope crushed — ambi-
tion sacrificed
Desire defeated — in a figure bent
A broken spirit — labour vainly spent !
And for these offerings which I give
with tears
Remembering all the friends of former
years

* In Venice.

(90)





Who to my manhood strength and
courage lent
I only ask tranquillity, content
With what God giveth in the place
of wealth
And thoughts which move to music
in good health.





Paradisi Gloria.

*"O frate mio! ciascuna e cittadina
D'una vera città ———."* DANTE.

There is a city, builded by no hand,
And unapproachable by sea or
shore ;
And unassailable by any band
Of storming soldiery for evermore.
In that pure city of the living Lamb
No ray shall fall from satellite or
sun,
Or any star; but He who said "I Am,"
Shall be the Light, He and His
Holy One.
Nor shall we longer spend our gift of
time
In time's poor pleasures, — doing
petty things
Of work or warfare, merchandise or
rhyme ;

(92)





But we shall sit beside the silver
springs
That flow from God's own footstool,
and behold
The saints and martyrs, and those
blessed few
Who loved us once and were beloved
of old,
To dwell with them and walk with
them anew,
In alternations of sublime repose, —
Musical motion, — the perpetual
play
Of every faculty that Heaven bestows
Through the bright, busy, and eter-
nal day.

FINIS.

(83)

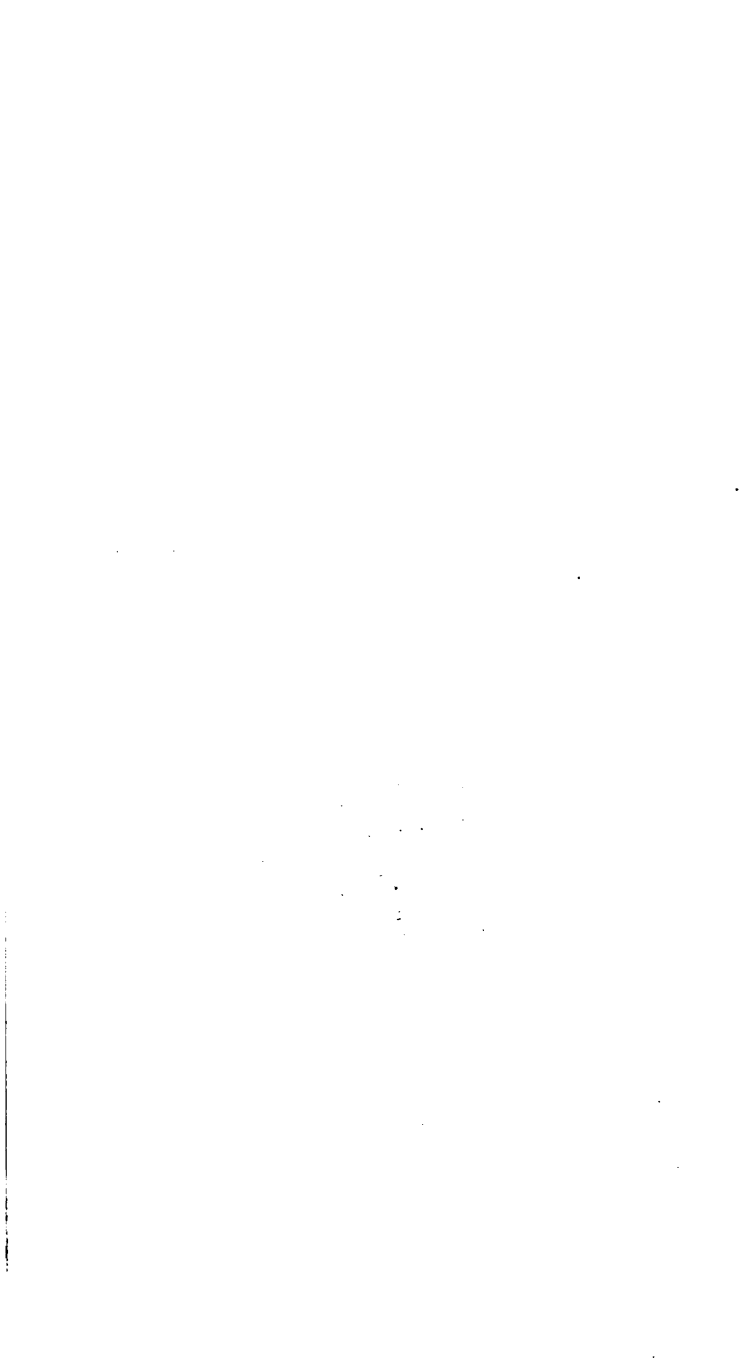


The diagrams illustrate the arrangement of particles in three states of matter:

- Solid:** Particles are tightly packed in a regular, repeating pattern.
- Liquid:** Particles are closely packed but arranged in a disordered, irregular pattern.
- Gas:** Particles are widely spaced and arranged in a completely random, disordered pattern.

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